

CLAIMS

1. A method for measuring the optical characteristics of a colored liquid comprising:

5 a dropping step of dropping a colored liquid onto a transparent plate arranged horizontally, and

a measuring step of measuring the optical characteristics of the dropped colored liquid from beneath the transparent plate.

10 2. A method for measuring the optical characteristics of a colored liquid according to Claim 1, wherein the measuring step comprises starting measurement when a predetermined time has passed after the start of dropping in the dropping step.

15 3. Method for measuring the optical characteristics of a colored liquid according to Claim 1, wherein the measuring step is performed using a spectrophotometer equipped with an integrating sphere, an illumination light, and a receptor.

20 4. An apparatus for measuring the optical characteristics of a colored liquid, comprising:

a transparent plate arranged horizontally,  
a sampling means capable of collecting a colored liquid and dropping the collected colored liquid onto the transparent  
25 plate, and

a measuring means for measuring the optical characteristics of the dropped colored liquid, the measuring means being positioned beneath the transparent plate.

30 5. An apparatus for measuring the optical characteristics of a colored liquid according to Claim 4, further comprising:

a transporting means for transporting the sampling means between an area above the transparent plate and a container  
35 containing the colored liquid,

a driving means for driving the sampling means to collect and drop the colored liquid, and

a controlling means for controlling the operation of the transporting means and the driving means.

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6. An apparatus for measuring the optical characteristics of a colored liquid according to Claim 5, wherein the controlling means makes the measuring means start measurement when a predetermined time has passed after dropping of the colored liquid is started due to the driving of the driving means.

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7. An apparatus for measuring the optical characteristics of a colored liquid according to Claim 5, wherein the sampling means is in the form of a pipette or a syringe.

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8. An apparatus for measuring the optical characteristics of a colored liquid according to Claim 4, further comprising a frame-like flow prevention member, the flow prevention member being positioned on the surface of the transparent plate.

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9. An apparatus for measuring the optical characteristics of a colored liquid according to Claim 4, wherein the measuring means further comprises a spectrophotometer equipped with an integrating sphere, an illumination light, and a receptor.

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